


REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination on the merits. The claim amendments introduced herein are not made for reasons related to patentability of the original claims. Support for new claims 139 and 140 is found throughout the specification as filed and in original claims 66 and 68, respectively.

In view of the above amendment, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and request expedited notice of the same.

Dated: October 31, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Lynn L. Janulis

Registration No.: 53,066

Agent for Applicants

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300

Sears Tower

Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357

(312) 474-6300